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PHILIPPINES

POPULATION, HEALTH & NUTRITION

ENHANCED AND RAPID IMPROVEMENT IN COMMUNITY HEALTH (EnRICH) PROJECT - ACIDI/VOCA

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The **EnRICH Project of ACIDI/VOCA** in *Tawi-Tawi* and *Maguindanao* aims to create sustainable partnerships with stakeholders that will improve the health of women of reproductive age and children (under 5) in pilot areas. It has the following objectives:

1. increase contraceptive prevalence rate to near national level.
2. improve maternal and child health indicators, and
3. increase tuberculosis diagnosis and treatment.

PROJECT BACKGROUND



ACDI/VOCA (Agricultural Cooperative Development International /Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance) is an international nonprofit, non-government organization with a string of experiences on women's reproductive health, and multi-sectoral and coalition building projects both local and international. Main interventions shall be focused on the family planning and the maternal and child health programs. Capacity building shall also be provided for the prevention and control of tuberculosis.

The EnRICH Project of ACIDI/VOCA officially started on September 16, 2002 initially for two years in five target municipalities of Tawi Tawi. In October 2004, the project was extended to February 28, 2007 and the project sites were expanded to the remaining five municipalities of Tawi Tawi and additional five municipalities of Maguindanao.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Major **EnRICH** program interventions are: 1) capacity building, 2) sustainable partnership, 3) public education, and 4) focused assistance or small grants to convened and organized Healthy Families Coalitions.

Capacity building. **EnRICH** will assist health workers in FP, MCH and TB prevention and control. USAID partners from all sectors will support an intensified awareness campaign, hence, honing the information/education/communication and social mobilization skills of health workers

Sustainable partnership. **EnRICH** will facilitate the establishment of partnerships at the municipal levels. A "Healthy Families Coalition" in each municipality shall banner the Sentrong Sigla values of "consumption and promotion" of health of each individual and their families. EnRICH will solicit and encourage the participation of religious leaders, community workers and other stakeholder groups (e.g., ulama, government agencies, the academe, youth organizations, etc.) to build a strong foundation for healthy families. An Advisory Council whose members come from the different stakeholders groups will provide guidance to the coalition.

Public education. **EnRICH** will tap other partners outside of the present health service delivery system to spearhead the development and implementation of information and education strategies to effect positive health seeking behavior.

EnRICH shall introduce social marketing and adult learning for public education to consciously promote and facilitate community awareness on FP/MCH.

EnRICH shall also promote adolescent and youth health development in the school setting through recruitment and training of peer counselors/educators. Materials to be used shall be in the vernacular, and delivered through media and interpersonal interactions.

Small grants for the Healthy Families Coalition. **EnRICH** will provide members of the coalition some inputs on resource mobilization and community organizing. These coalitions are expected to continue their community health programs beyond **EnRICH** project completion.





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ACCOMPLISHMENTS (AS OF DECEMBER 2004)

1. Passage of Provincial Fatwa on Family Planning(December 2003)
2. Distance Education On-Air Training Program for Barangay Health Workers (BHWs) (February to August 2004). Using the Bongao-based radio station, BHWs acquired basic knowledge and skills in community health during the six-month (one-hour-a-week) distance education on-air. More than 300 BHWs completed the course with periodic examinations at their respective health stations. BHW Trainers served as facilitators during the training program. Format included a 15-minute situational drama series to reinforce the learning process.
3. Series of religious consultations (Mussawarah) on family planning (August and December 2003)
4. Rehabilitation of M/L Tawi Tawi Floating Clinic (July 2004). The floating clinic is the symbol of hope to Tawi Tawi people who live in more than 300 islands and islets. Now the Floating Clinic serves these isolated communities. People can continue to access to basic health services provided by the M/L Tawi Tawi Floating Clinic.
5. Tawi Tawi Health Forum, with Health Fair and Photo Exhibits (July 2003 and July 2004)
6. Five Healthy Families Coalitions organized in Bongao, Simunul, Languyan, Sibutu-Sitangkai, and Tandubas (early 2003)
7. Small grants implementation for five Healthy Families Coalitions for their community health (FP/MCH) advocacy programs (July 2004 to February 2005)
8. Basic Microscopy Training Workshop (refresher course for medical technologists and microscopists) for improved TB diagnosis and treatment (June 2003)
9. Integrated FP/MCH Training of Trainers for BHWs(September 2003)
10. Basic OB Care and FP Counseling for untrained TBAs (Sept. 2004)
11. Resource Mobilization Workshops for key officers of Healthy Families Coalitions (March-April 2003)
12. Baseline Survey and Strategic Planning Workshop (September 2002 to April 2003)
13. Assessment of Public Health Care Capacities in ARMM (June 2004)
14. Conduct of community assemblies, community consultations with the active participation of Muslim religious leaders, core officers of Healthy Families Coalition, and RHU personnel
15. Campus tour to selected high schools for FP/MCH awareness



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